



Michigan Crop Weather

Fighting the Elements

Three days were suitable for fieldwork during the week ending May 22, according to the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office. Precipitation ranged from 0.58 inches to 0.87 inches in the Upper Peninsula and 0.31 to 1.12 inches in the Lower Peninsula. Temperatures ranged from normal to 2 degrees above normal in the Upper Peninsula and ranged from 1 degree below normal to 3 degrees above normal in the Lower Peninsula. Planting continued to be behind schedule, but growers were able to make substantial planting progress in the few days they were able to plant. Where conditions allowed, planting, tillage, and spraying occurred.

Field Crops

Rain showers made it a struggle for farmers to accomplish what they wanted during the week. **Corn** and **soybean** planting progressed when conditions allowed. Early planted corn started to emerge. **Alfalfa** growth has been constant. **Wheat** fields in southern Michigan approached Feekes' growth stage 8. Some growers reported drowned spots. **Oats** and **barley** were planted and most of the fields emerged. Some **sugarbeet** fields remain to be planted with a few to be replanted.

Soil moisture for week ending 05/22/11				
Stratum	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	0	0	38	62
Subsoil	0	0	48	52

Crop condition for week ending 05/22/11					
Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Hay	0	4	22	58	16
Barley	0	2	57	35	6
Corn	2	5	35	47	11
Oats	0	2	28	59	11
Pasture	3	5	21	52	19
Winter Wheat	1	5	21	55	18

Fruit

Fruit development remained about a week behind normal. Continual rains, wet soils, and winds have hampered growers from keeping current with fungicide and bactericide spraying. **Apples** ranged from king bloom to early petal fall in the Grand Rapids area. Apple scab and fire blight control were major concerns. Insect activity remained light. **Tart cherries** were in early bloom in the northwest and in full bloom in the west central; growers sprayed for leaf spot control. **Sweet cherries** ranged from full bloom in the northwest to petal fall in the west central. **Grape** shoots were four inches long in the southwest, where phomopsis control was an issue; northwest wine grapes were at early bud swell. **Blueberries** were at late pink to early bloom in the Grand Rapids area and in early bloom to full bloom in the southwest. Mummy berry shoot strikes have appeared. **Strawberry** bloom began; a very late season was anticipated in the southeast, where flower buds began to emerge in **raspberries**. **Peaches** were at petal fall in the west central; shoots were 4 inches long in the southwest, where crop potential was excellent. **Plums** were at first bloom in the northwest and in the shuck in the southwest.

Vegetables

Fieldwork remained well behind normal due to ongoing wet soil conditions. **Asparagus** harvest continued. **Sweet corn** continued to be planted in the Southwest. Some sweet corn had begun to emerge. **Carrot** and **Onion** planting was complete. Early planted carrots began to emerge. Growers of summer vegetables were concerned about getting their crops in the fields. In the southwest, **tomatoes**, **cucumbers**, **zucchini**, and **yellow squash** were progressing well under protective low tunnels. **Peas**, **leaks**, **red beets** and **lettuce** looked good. **Celery** transplanting continued. **Pickle** planting was expected to begin in a week or two. **Snap beans** for processing remained behind schedule. Growers were working fields in preparation for planting **winter squash** and **pumpkins**.

Crop progress for week ending 05/22/11				
Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asparagus, harvested	31	19	43	39
Barley, planted	78	42	97	88
Barley, emerged	47	12	89	65
Corn, planted	57	41	84	82
Corn, emerged	22	3	60	47
Oats, planted	83	67	100	96
Oats, emerged	52	26	94	84
Potatoes, planted	73	36	77	67
Potatoes, emerged	13	NA	25	29
Soybeans, planted	24	15	48	51
Soybeans, emerged	7	NA	20	15
Sugarbeets, planted	96	95	100	100

Michigan Weather Summary for Week Ending 05/22/11 ¹												
Station	Temperature			Cumulative growing degree days ²			Precipitation					
	Maximum	Minimum	Departure from normal	2011	2010	Normal	This week	Last two weeks	Last four weeks	Since April 1	Normal	
											Since April 1	For month
Ironwood	79	29		193	298		0.65	1.96	3.26	5.66		
Marquette	75	29		186	280		0.58	2.38	4.20	6.96		
Stephenson	76	28		219	357		0.58	1.69	3.50	6.20		
Western UP	79	28	0	193	302	222	0.58	2.12	3.33	5.68	4.51	3.37
Cornell	74	30		172	327		0.93	1.62	2.96	5.08		
Sault St Marie	77	30		188	303		0.66	1.41	4.10	6.94		
Eastern UP	77	30	2	170	295	145	0.87	2.09	3.83	6.65	4.52	3.01
Beulah	83	33		269	362		0.66	2.83	4.91	9.94		
Lake City	82	33		260	344		0.71	2.40	4.76	8.63		
Old Mission	84	33		214	354		0.91	2.52	4.45	6.94		
Pellston	82	34		246	354		0.77	1.70	3.98	7.13		
Northwest	84	32	2	236	338	266	0.76	2.52	4.57	7.68	4.49	2.61
Alpena	78	35		195	327		0.54	2.05	5.00	8.71		
Houghton Lake	83	35		283	368		0.28	2.20	4.82	8.50		
Rogers City	81	35		150	298		0.22	1.22	2.27	5.83		
Northeast	85	35	1	226	348	248	0.47	1.64	4.07	7.82	4.51	2.76
Fremont	83	36		325	396		0.49	1.10	3.16	6.32		
Hart	83	34		282	358		0.14	0.90	2.73	5.22		
Muskegon	85	36		333	388		0.67	1.57	3.50	6.86		
West Central	85	32	3	304	375	307	0.31	1.26	3.28	6.18	5.04	2.67
Alma	85	36		288	416		1.63	2.98	5.55	8.73		
Big Rapids	76	35		281	373		0.21	1.43	4.98	10.18		
Central	85	35	1	296	394	339	0.61	2.12	4.58	7.81	5.06	2.79
Bad Axe	83	37		247	383		0.82	2.01	4.45	9.23		
Pigeon	86	38		261	386		0.76	1.25	3.43	7.20		
Saginaw	86	37		315	427		1.07	2.57	5.14	8.97		
Standish	83	37		250	383		1.11	1.70	5.08	8.90		
East Central	86	37	-1	254	391	322	0.84	2.45	5.03	8.86	4.43	2.63
Fennville	86	37		317	420		0.11	1.41	3.79	6.95		
Grand Rapids	86	37		368	459		1.12	3.00	6.13	10.30		
Holland	87	37		393	468		1.23	4.03	6.64	9.90		
South Bend, IN	84	37		391	474		0.51	3.87	7.54	11.72		
Watervliet	85	37		349	449		0.49	2.35	5.02	8.59		
Southwest	89	34	0	355	454	368	0.56	2.46	5.19	8.68	5.57	3.01
Belding	84	35		317	401		0.33	2.06	5.04	8.78		
Coldwater	84	38		361	467		0.36	1.95	3.70	7.22		
Lansing	84	36		328	449		0.88	3.91	5.71	9.53		
South Central	86	35	0	329	437	368	1.12	3.29	5.53	9.12	5.26	2.92
Detroit	84	41		362	490		0.61	1.50	3.66	7.86		
Flint	86	41		352	445		2.92	5.41	7.28	11.22		
Romeo	84	38		297	419		2.16	5.34	7.18	10.16		
Tipton	83	40		347	449		0.84	1.89	4.89	8.70		
Toledo, OH	84	41		333	517		0.74	2.52	4.58	7.79		
Southeast	87	38	0	336	462	349	0.92	2.69	4.78	8.14	5.25	2.85

¹ Issued by the USDA, NASS, Michigan Field Office in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service, Agricultural Meteorologist, Department of Geography, and Crop Advisory Team ALERTS.

² Growing degree days (GDD) is the sum of daily mean temperatures minus 50 per day, 86 maximum and 50 minimum. The GDD is accumulative from April 1.